

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	Construction Workers Strike at Oksywie	DATE DISTR.	3 May 1954	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. The wages of building workers employed by the State Building Enterprise (Panstwowe Przedsiębiorstwo Budowlane--P.P.B.) consist of three parts, as follows:
 - a. A basic wage, very low, paid regardless of whether the employee is actually working or not.
 - b. The standard wage for fulfilling the established norm.
 - c. A premium for exceeding the norm.
2. During the period when the employees are working, a deduction of eight per cent. is made from their gross earnings. This sum is kept in deposit by the P.P.B. and is supposed to be paid back to the workers at a time when they are unable to work because of inclement weather.
3. At the beginning of February, 1954, the P.P.B. branch engaged in building barracks at the Polish Naval Depot at Oksywie, suspended work because of the frost. After two weeks during which they received only their basic wage, the workers demanded that they should be paid out the eight per cent. deduction. This demand was rejected on the grounds that the money was needed for the Polish rearmament program.
4. When the P.P.B. restarted work on 15 February, the workers staged a sit-down strike in support of their demand for the additional payment. The authorities reacted by sending a KBW (Internal Security Corps) unit to the building site, which arrested a number of the workers who happened to be nearest. The strike was broken in a couple of hours. The arrested men were released after 48 hours detention, during which they were interrogated in an attempt to find ringleaders.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW